Claims 1-14, 16-20 and 23-25 are pending. Claims 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 20 and 23 are amended herein. Reconsideration of the Application and Claims is respectfully requested.

102 Rejection

Claims 1-14, 16-20 and 23-25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Lee et al. (US Patent Application No. 2003/0158995). Applicant respectfully submits that the Lee et al. reference does not anticipate or render obvious the embodiments of the present invention as are set forth in Claims 1-14, 16-20 and 23-25.

The Examiner is respectfully directed to Claim 1, which is drawn to a variable width memory system. Claim 1 is reproduced below in its entirety:

1. (currently amended) A variable width memory system comprising:

a bus for communicating information;

a plurality of single cell variable width memory locations coupled to said bus, said plurality of single cell variable width memory locations store information, wherein said plurality of single cell variable width memory locations receive a number of bits corresponding to the width of the single cell variable width memory locations; and

a controller coupled to said bus, said controller directs access to said plurality of single cell variable width memory locations, wherein said number of bits potentially vary automatically on a per access basis depending on which single cell variable width memory location of said plurality of single cell variable width memory locations is being accessed, wherein all memory locations are not required to have the same width. (emphasis added)

Claims 8, 20 and 23 recite limitations that are similar to those contained in Claim 1. Claims 2-7 depend from independent Claim 1, Claims 9-14 and 16-19 depend from independent Claim 8 and Claims 24-25 depend from independent Claim 23 and set forth additional limitations of the present claimed invention.

Lee does not anticipate or render obvious the embodiments of the present invention that are set forth in Claims 1, 8, 20 and 23. Lee does not teach or suggest all of the limitations that are recited in the aforementioned Claims as is required to anticipate or render obvious the embodiments of the present invention set forth therein. Specifically, Lee et al. does not teach or suggest a variable width memory system that includes "a plurality of single cell variable width memory locations" that "store information" and that "receive a number of bits corresponding to the width of the variable width memory locations" as is set forth in Claim 1 (Claims 1, 8, 20 and 23 contain similar limitations).

Lee et al. only discloses a dissimilar method for DRAM control with adjustable page size. Lee discloses that as a part of the disclosed method for DRAM control, page size can be adjusted by using memory masks. It should be noted that Lee et al. discloses adjusting page size and is not concerned with adjusting the width of a particular memory location (e.g., a cell) as is required to meet the limitations of Applicant's Claim 1 (Claims 1, 8, 20 and 23 contain similar limitations). It is important to note that a page of memory refers to something that is very different from a single memory location.

As acknowledged by the Examiner at page 2 of the outstanding Office Action, "a page only refers to an area of a memory bank accessed by a given row address. In contrast, actual memory locations are accessed with given row and column addresses." The Examiner

suggests in the remarks at page 2 that a claim limitation that would refer to a variable width memory location that is accessed by row and column identifiers would distinguish over Lee et al. The Applicant agrees, and respectfully submits, that the current claim language that makes reference to a "single cell variable width memory location" makes clear that a specific location in memory (such as is accessed by row and column identifiers) and not an entire page of memory is being delimited. Accordingly, Claim 1 contains a limitation that is simply not taught or suggested by Lee et al.

In fact, nowhere in the Lee et al. reference is it taught or suggested that a variable width memory system include a plurality of single cell variable width memory locations that store information and that receive a number of bits corresponding to the width of the variable width memory locations as is set forth in Claim 1 (Claims 1, 8, 20 and 23 contain similar limitations).

Consequently, the embodiments of Applicant's invention that are set forth in Claims 1, 8, 20 and 23 are not anticipated or rendered obvious by Lee et al. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that Lee et al. does not anticipate or render obvious the embodiments of the present claimed invention as are recited in Claims 2-7 which depend from Claim 1, Claims 9-14 and 16-19 which depend from Claim 8, and Claims 24-25 which depend from Claim 23. Consequently, the rejection of Claims 1-14, 16-20 and 23-25 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) is improper and should be withdrawn.
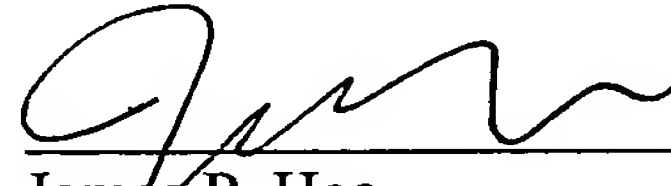
Conclusion

In light of the above-listed amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully requests allowance of the remaining Claims.

The Examiner is urged to contact Applicant's undersigned representative if the Examiner believes such action would expedite resolution of the present Application.

Respectfully submitted,

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